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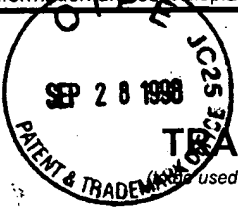


AF/GAU- 3711

PTO/SB/21 REV 1 (12/97)

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 <b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b> <small>used for all correspondence after initial filing)</small>	Application Number	08/855,061	
	Filing Date	05/13/97	
	First Named Inventor	S.D. Augustine et al	
	Examiner Name	Graham	
	Group Art Unit	3304	
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	7	Attorney Docket Number	AUGA01000012

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)		
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Firm or Individual Name	Terrance A. Meador Reg. No. 30,298 GRAY CARY WARE & FREIDENRICH
Signature	<i>Terrance A. Meador</i>
Date	23 September 1998

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING			
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E. Chou  
9-30-98

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

S.D. AUGUSTINE ET AL

Serial No. 08/855,061

Filed: May 13, 1997

For: THERMAL BLANKET

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) Group Art Unit: 3304

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) Examiner: M. Graham

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) Docket No.: AUGA01000012

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

**REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION**

In response to the Final Action dated 23 June 1998, please consider the following remarks in support of the patentability of Claims 20-39.

**REMARKS**

Claims 20-39 remain in the application, unamended by this paper.

The Examiner has rejected Claims 20-22, 34 and 35 for anticipation by Roehr. That rejection is respectfully traversed as follows.

The paper submitted by the applicant on 3 April 1998 sets forth the requirements for anticipation, and distinguishes Roehr from Claims 20-22, 34 and 35 for failing to include "an inflatable structure" formed between an "overlying sheet" and a "lamine base sheet" including an under layer of a fibrous material and upper surface.

In the Final Action the Examiner has responded to those arguments.

First, the Examiner argues that Roehr's disclosure describes "a sealed envelope of flaccid material (plastic foil) into which air is pumped at varying pressure(s) depending on what the user desires. Under such conditions it is inherent that what is being disclosed is an